

**Introductory Remarks of the
Honorable Michael M. Reyna, Chairman and CEO
Farm Credit Administration
Celebrating Women's Equality Day
McLean, Virginia
August 13, 2003**

Thank you for being here to celebrate Women's Equality Day.

Men have hopes...but so do women...

Men have dreams...but so do women...

Men have achievements...but so do women.

Though progress has been made through the years...much work remains to be done before women reach full and equal status in our society.

Still today, and far too often...as women pursue their hopes and dreams and achieve great success...the obstacles they face are larger; the hurdles they must clear are higher; and the burdens they must carry are heavier.

It has been said in other times and places...and many of us know it to be all too true...women must work twice as hard, to get half as far. With this in mind, let us rededicate ourselves on this day to eliminate any and all obstacles...lower any and all hurdles...and lighten any and all burdens. To do so enables not only women to reach their fullest potential...but our country to reach its fullest potential as well.

Our guest today is a woman who has achieved extraordinary personal and professional success. She is a recognized leader in the field

of telecommunications and technology. And...her achievements serve as a beacon of hope for women...and for men; indeed, for all of us who understand and fully appreciate that this country's strength is rooted in equal opportunity for all...not just a few.

Through difficult times...and lots of hard work, she never forgot who she is and where she came from. She is right to be proud of her Native American heritage...and the name of her company shows it.

Ladies and gentlemen, the President and CEO of Arrowhead Global Solutions...please help me welcome our very special guest today...Ms. Mary Ann Elliott.